

## NOTES ON SOME WEST INDIAN CHRYSOMELIDAE.

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The following notes and descriptions of new species of Chrysomelidae were made in the work of identifying and arranging material in the U. S. National Museum. The new species were found in material sent by W. A. Hoffman.

### LAMPROSOMA FLORIDANUM (Horn).

*Lamprosoma floridanum* (Horn), hitherto recorded only from Florida, is represented in the National Museum by specimens collected by W. M. Mann in 1918 at Bluff and Spanish Wells, Bahamas. This species, originally described in *Oomorplus*, is intermediate between *Oomorplus* and *Lamprosoma*. It possesses the tiny eighth antennal segment so striking in *Oomorplus*, but instead of the simple claws characteristic of that genus it has the appendiculate claws found in *Lamprosoma*. The genus *Oomorplus* of late has been merged into *Lamprosoma*,<sup>1</sup> possibly because of this fact. Either a third genus must be erected for such intermediate species, keeping up the genus *Oomorplus* Curtis (1831) for such as *Oomorplus concolor* (Sturm), the genotype and sole representative in Europe, and *Lamprosoma* Kirby (1818; genotype *L. bicolor* from Brazil), for those having a large eighth antennal segment, or all the species be merged into one genus. The latter course for the present may be preferable.

### *Leucocera hoffmani* n. sp. (Fig. 1.)

Large (7.8 mm.), convex, rounded, not shining, dull alutaceous, deep reddish brown, each elytron with two basal aeneous green blotches, and in well marked specimens two broad irregular fasciae, one median, the second before apex, suture frequently aeneous its entire length, and the coarse, sparsely and irregularly spaced series of punctures on elytra aeneous spotted. Antennae extending to humeral prominences, pale yellow with darker tip to apical segment. Head broad, deep reddish, lightly punctate with coarser punctures about eyes; eyes small, elongate, a deep narrow groove from inner margin of eyes extending downwards towards clypeus,

<sup>1</sup> Jacoby, Fauna of British India, 1908, p. 281. Junk, Coleopterorum Catalogus, pt. 53, p. 224. Leng, Catalogue of Coleoptera of America North of Mexico, 1920, p. 292.

also a faint median vertical line just anterior to clypeus joining with two other lines running at oblique angles and forming a triangle above clypeus. Prothorax about three times as broad as long, convex, anterior margin curving forwards and forming with lateral margin an acute angular projection beside eyes; surface smooth, dull with scattered light punctures except on sides, there with numerous deep, coarse punctures extending about basal margin and becoming sparser and interrupted altogether at middle; color deep reddish brown. Scutellum deep brown, often with aeneous luster. Elytra rounded, convex, nearly as broad as long, deep reddish brown with aeneous green basal blotches, one in middle of base of each elytron, the other over humerus, and frequently irregular fasciae, one median, possibly consisting of confluent spots, wider at suture and middle of each elytron, and another fascia before apex, also wider at suture and middle of elytron, both fasciae extending to lateral margin; suture also frequently green; in one of three specimens no trace of these fasciae, the only markings consisting of the basal blotches and the green spots marking the punctures; surface smooth, alutaceous, with sparse, shallow, coarse punctures, arranged serially and irregularly spaced, and with faint tracing of line between punctures; between these rows of coarse punctures and only visible under magnification a row of widely but regularly spaced very light punctures. Body beneath shining, deep reddish brown, sometimes with aeneous luster. Length 7.4-7.8 mm.; width 5.2-5.5 mm.

*Type* and two *paratypes*.—Cat. No. 40975 U. S. N. M.

*Type locality*.—Hinche, Haiti. Collected by W. A. Hoffman, May 1925.

*Leucocera hoffmani* is one of the larger species of this rather small West Indian genus, being nearly as large as the genotype, *L. quinquepunctata* L., which is entirely green except for five small, well-defined red spots on each elytron. Several other species have similar green and ferruginous coloring, but none of these appears to be so closely allied as to be easily confused. *L. sexguttata* Chev. has the head and elytra green or blue, the elytra with spots or fasciae, and the thorax violet purple; *L. optica* Suffr. is aeneous green with two red spots and a fascia on posterior part of elytra and the body beneath is blue green; *L. aeneomicans* Stål is described as ferruginous with entirely aeneous elytra, and is apparently a smaller species.

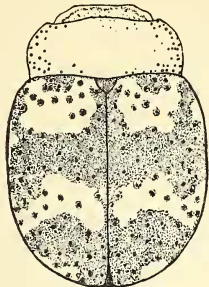


Fig. 1.

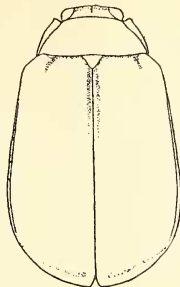


Fig. 2.

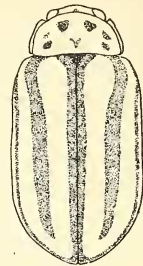


Fig. 3.

Fig. 1.—*Leucocera hoffmani*, n. sp.

Fig. 2.—*Oedionychis lantanae*, n. sp.

Fig. 3.—*Disonycha spilotrochela*, n. sp.

***Oedionychis lantanae* n. sp. (Fig. 2).**

Rounded oval (6 mm.), not twice as long as wide, slightly convex, shining, very indistinctly punctate, entirely pale ferruginous. Antennae slender, not half as long as body, pale and nearly unicolorous in female, darker in male with segments 6, 7, 8 and 9 pale yellow; third segment equal to fourth. Head shining, rounded, with a few sparse, indistinct punctures; frontal tubercles not produced; interocular space about half width of head. Prothorax over twice as wide as long, convex with explanate lateral margin narrow at base and widening apically and forming a thickened tooth; very indistinctly and sparsely punctate. Scutellum triangular, but somewhat rounded at apical angle, margin deeper brown. Elytra convex, rounded, considerably wider below middle, with narrow explanate margin and rounded humeral prominences, distinctly sulcate within humeri; polished, very sparsely and faintly punctate; pale ferruginous with slightly darkened margin and sutural edge, and in one specimen a faint violet luster about scutellar region. Body beneath with sparse, pale pubescence, shining, entirely pale ferruginous. Length 5.8–6 mm.; width 3.5–3.8 mm.

*Type*, male, and two *paratypes* (one male and one female.)—Cat. No. 40976 U. S. N. M.

*Type locality*.—Mariani, Haiti. Other localities.—La Vanneau, Haiti.

Collected October, 1924, by W. A. Hoffman.

*Food plant.*—*Lantana camara* L.

Possibly there is a variety of this species in which the pronotum is spotted, as in one specimen very obscure darker markings on the pronotum suggest this variation. This species is quite distinct from the other yellow brown species of the genus by being entirely unicolorous without darker legs or antennae, and very polished and rounded convex in shape. *Oedionychis tibialis* Jac. is smaller, less rounded and more depressed. *Oedionychis montana* Jac. is also smaller and has dark antennae and anterior tibiae and tarsi. *Oedionychis apicornis* Jac. from Bolivia and *Oedionychis flavida* Horn from Texas are elongate and have parallel sides.

***Disonycha spilotrachela* n. sp. (Fig. 3).**

Shining, nearly impunctate, elongate oval, small (5 mm.), yellow brown, head with piceous spot on occiput, pronotum 5-7-spotted, elytra with black common sutural vitta uniting with narrow submarginal one, a discoidal median vitta on either elytron, not reaching apex. Antennae about half as long as body, piceous with reddish brown basal segments, third segment shorter than fourth. Head shining, smooth on occiput, a circle of coarse punctures on either side of front near eyes, interocular space about half width of head; pale reddish brown with small piceous occipital spot. Prothorax not twice as wide as long, narrowed anteriorly, convex; very shiny with only slight trace of transverse basal depression, impunctate, yellow brown with 5 or sometimes 7 piceous spots, consisting of two larger and closer set anterior spots and three basal ones, with sometimes two other fainter lateral spots. Scutellum piceous, shining, triangular. Elytra nearly three-fourths as wide as long, oblong oval, with sides subparallel; surface shining, smooth with light sparse punctures only visible under high magnification; yellow brown with common black sutural vitta uniting at apex with narrow submarginal vitta, and on each elytron a median vitta, not quite as wide as yellow spaces on either side, and not reaching apex. Body beneath covered with dense, pale pubescence, pale with darker outer edge to epipleura and dark streak on tibiae; tarsi dark brown or piceous. Length 5-5.3 mm.; width 2.7-2.9 mm.

*Type locality.*—Mon Fleri, Haiti. *Other localities.*—Lake Tortuguera, Porto Rico.

Collected by W. A. Hoffman in Haiti and by S. T. Danforth in Porto Rico.

*Type*, male, and one *paratype* (male).—Cat. No. 40977, U. S. N. M.

This species resembles in markings the common North American *Disonycha 5-vittata* Say, but is much smaller and more shining, the head polished and with few punctures, the elytral vittae wider and the depression at base of pronotum not as marked as in *D. 5-vittata*. *Disonycha spilotrachelata* is about the size of *D. caroliniana* Fab., but in the latter the sides are rounded and the thorax usually 2-spotted. The only *Disonycha* that could be confused with it is *D. gowdeyi* Bryant from Jamaica. The head in *gowdeyi* is impunctate, with three dark spots and with piceous labrum, the antennae have the third segment a little longer than fourth, the sides of the prothorax are nearly parallel, and the arrangement of the spots on the pronotum in rows is quite unlike the semicircular arrangement in *D. spilotrachelata*. The size of *gowdeyi* is 6–7 mm., while *spilotrachelata* is 5–5.3 mm.

#### ALTICA LITURATA Olivier (*Megistops walcotti* Bryant).

With the publication of Mr. Bryant's excellent drawing of his new species, *Megistops walcotti*,<sup>2</sup> one can have little doubt that an old and hitherto unrecognized species of Olivier is at last identifiable. *Altica liturata* Oliv.<sup>3</sup> has always puzzled American entomologists. Horn<sup>4</sup> copied the figure, very imperfectly, and referred to the species as "unknown." Dr. E. A. Schwarz and possibly Horn himself, judging from his illustration, always considered it a species of *Ora*, and thus it appears as "*Oedionychis liturata* Oliv. (see genus *Ora*)" in Leng's Catalogue of Coleoptera North of Mexico. The reason it was doubtfully placed in the genus *Ora* was because the description and figure of Olivier resembled somewhat the species of that genus in color and in having abbreviated vittae on the elytra. And furthermore because of the incrassated hind legs found in *Ora*, that genus was originally placed by Clark among the Halticidae.<sup>5</sup> But although

<sup>2</sup> Bryant, New Halticidae from Africa and Haiti, Ann. and Mag. of N. H., vol. 19, No. 114, 1927, p. 621.

<sup>3</sup> Olivier, Ent., 6, 1808, p. 707, pl. 4, fig. 70.

<sup>4</sup> Horn, Synopsis of the Halticini of Boreal America, Trans. Amer. Ent. Soc., vol. 16, 1889, pl. 6, fig. 24.

<sup>5</sup> Clark, Journ. Ent., vol. 2, No. 12, 1865, p. 385.

the species of the genus *Ora* are variable in their vittate markings, none of the species has ever been found to correspond at all well with the old one of Olivier. Any one comparing Mr. Bryant's drawing with Olivier's figure is struck at once by their similarity. The descriptions, too, agree, especially the description of the eyes, the distinctive character of the genus, which Olivier characterizes as "fort grands." Mr. Bryant's measurement for his species is 2.5 mm. The line measurement beside the Olivier figure is slightly less than 4 mm. This discrepancy in measurement is probably of no great importance, as the one specimen of *Megistops walcotti* in the National Museum measures slightly over 3 mm. Neither can the type locality of Olivier's species, "Caroline," be taken as ruling out its identity with the species from Porto Rico, since Olivier's habitats are sometimes inaccurate, and since he described numerous species from Santo Domingo. The specimen in the National Museum was collected by W. A. Hoffman at Mariana, Haiti.

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### COLLECTING NOTES ON LEPIDOPTERA.

By WM. PRESCOTT ROGERS, Fall River, Mass.

*Junonia coenia* Hübn. has been noted during 1927 in greater abundance than in several seasons. The last previous appearance of which I made a record was October 21, 1920, on the second fairway of the Rhode Island Country Club at Nayatt, R. I.

July 9, 1927.—A good specimen was captured on Brayton Beach road at Westport Harbor, Mass.

August 31, 1927.—Several specimens observed on the 8th, 9th, 10th, 12th and 15th fairways of the Kittansett Club at Marion, Mass. That day they were so numerous they appeared to have been more firmly established than transient visitors.

September 24, 1927.—At the Kittansett Club, Marion, Mass., a few rather worn specimens were noted about the Club House and 9th fairway. This was a clear, cold day, with strong N. W. wind benumbing to any insect.